(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The buildings of both the Hospitals at Tirupati and Nizamabad have already been handed over to the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 9.6.99 and 20.1.2000 respectively.

(b) The State Government has informed that these Hospitals have been commissioned on 8.7.99 and 29.12.2000 respectively.

Investigation against Officers by CBI

2700. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of officers above the level of Joint Secretary investigated by the CBI during the last two years:

(b) the number of cases in which CBI has sought prosecution of the officers during the same period; and

(c) what was Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (c) During the last 2 years *i.e.* 2000 and 2001 (upto 31.10.2001) as per the information provided by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), it has enquired/ investigated 33 cases against the officers above the level of Joint Secretary. In none of the cases sanction for prosecution has been sought by the CBI during this period.

Improvement in standards of CBI

2701. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CBI is ill equipped to carry out investigation into the big terrorists attacks like the recent attack on the USA cities; and

(b) if so, what measures are contemplated by Government to match the CBI with the investigating agencies of the developed countries like the USA's FBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) CBI is primarily an investigating agency, on anti-corruption cases. However, CBI has separately set up a core group on terrorism which is mandated to create emergency response teams for investigation into serious incidents of terrorist crime at a short notice, as and when required.

Employees against Logic of Liberalisation

2702. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the burgeoning numbers of Central Government employees go against the logic of liberalisation and better governance;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether Government may also contemplate for not granting extension of service to the senior most civil servants of the land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJA) : (a) and (b) The Government has taken several steps in the recent past to reduce the number of Central Government employees with a view to cut down the expenditure on the establishment which include:

(1) The Department of Personnel & Training have issued instructions in May, 2001 requesting all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India to restrict the recruitment to one-third of the direct recruitment vacancies occurring in each year subject to further ceiling that this does not exceed 1% of the total sanctioned strength of Ministries/Departments. The Ministries/Departments have accordingly been advised to prepare the Annual Direct Recruitment Plans, starting with the anticipated vacancies in the current financial year. The recruiting agencies have been asked not to entertain any request for recruitment by the Ministries/Departments without a clearance certificate to be obtained by the respective Ministry/ Department from the Screening Committee set up for the purpose. The ultimate objective is to reduce the Government manpower by 10% in the next five years.

(2) In the recent past, four Departments, namely, Department of Programme Implementation, Department of Industrial Development, Department